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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,997	09/17/2003	Soon Jo Lee	9988.058.00-US	1982
30827 7590 02/11/2008 MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP 1900 K STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
EXAMINER				
GRAVINI, STEPHEN MICHAEL				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3749				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/11/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/663,997

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Stephen Gravini

Art Unit

3749

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katz et al. (US 5,738,424). The claims are reasonably and broadly construed, in light of the accompanying specification, to be disclosed by Katz as comprising:

a base forming a floor of a body as shown in figure 1;

a front cabinet forming a front portion of the body as shown in figure 1;

a side cabinet forming a side portion of the body as shown in figure 1;

a back cover forming a back portion of the body as shown in figure 1;

a control panel **21** having a hook **41** or **42**, the hook having a first end disposed on a surface of the control panel and a second end;

a top cover **20** forming a top of the body wherein the top cover has a predetermined curvature as shown in figure 3, and wherein the control panel is provided on a rear portion of the top cover also as shown in figure 3, the top cover comprising a groove **29** provided at rear portion of the top cover, wherein the second end of the hook inserts into a hole **30** disposed in the group in the top cover; and

a fire wall made of metal disposed below the second end of the hook inserted into the groove in the top cover and the firewall directing fluid toward an outside of the body when fluid leaks through the hole wherein one skilled in the art would recognize

that the disclosed backsplash meets the claimed fluid leak feature and disclosed at column 1 line 57 through column 3 line 41; or alternatively:

a body as shown in figure 1;

a top cover covering the body as shown in figure 1, the top cover including:

a groove **29** which runs along a width of the top cover wherein the groove directs fluid on the top cover toward an exterior of the laundry dryer;

at least one hole **30** disposed in the groove;

a control panel **21** including a hook **41** or **42** disposed at a surface of the control panel opposite the top cover wherein the hook is configured for insertion into the at least one hole as shown in figures 2, 5, and 6; and

a fire wall disposed below the top cover; wherein the firewall has a curvature such that if a fluid leaks through the hole onto the firewall, the fluid is directed toward an outside of the body and disclosed at column 1 line 57 through column 3 line 41. Katz also discloses the firewall having the same predetermined curvature because the figures show that the firewall and groove have a predetermined curvature which is the same as shown in figure 3 along with the groove provided in left and right side directions.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-5 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of US Patent No. 7,192,102 in view of either Katz (US 5,738,424). Applicants patented invention discloses the claimed invention except for the claimed hole and groove disposal. Katz, also laundry dryer

appliances, discloses hole and groove disposal, as rejected above. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of the patented invention with the hole and groove disposal disclosed in Katz, for the purpose of providing another secure fastening means in the filed of laundry appliances.

Response to Arguments

Applicants' arguments filed December 10, 2007 have been fully considered but are moot on new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gravini whose telephone number is 571 272 4875. The examiner can normally be reached on normal weekday business hours (east coast time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven B. McAllister can be reached on 571 272 6785. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SMG
/Stephen Gravini/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3749